

Executive Summary

This is a request by the City of Waukegan, Illinois for Great Lakes Legacy Act (Legacy Act) FY 2004 Project funding to perform the proposed ***Waukegan Harbor Former Slip 3 Sediment Remediation Project***. The proposed project described herein entails the removal of approximately 30,000 cubic yards (cy) of highly contaminated sediment containing PCBs ranging between 50 and 500 parts per million (ppm). Three remediation alternatives are being considered. We are prepared to begin the design phase following receipt of Legacy Act funding. It is estimated that sediment removal could begin 4 months thereafter, and the project can be completed with an approximate 15-month timeframe.

Waukegan Harbor is a Great Lakes Area of Concern (AOC). During 1991 and 1992, PCB contaminated sediment from Waukegan Harbor were dredged as part of the Outboard Marine Corporation (OMC) Superfund Site work. During this prior project, dredged sediments were managed by thermal treatment (PCBs > 500 ppm) and via placement in a constructed containment cell (PCBs < 50 ppm). The dredged sediment having PCB concentrations between 50 and 500 ppm were placed within a containment unit constructed within the Waukegan Harbor's Boat Slip No. 3. Earlier USEPA documents refer to the Slip No.3 containment as a temporary measure, anticipated to be further addressed by OMC during further site wide remedial measures. In December 2000, OMC permanently closed its Waukegan Lakefront manufacturing plants, declared bankruptcy and has not sought re-organization. Local, State and Federal government are working cooperatively to address the environmental impact left by OMC.

The Waukegan Harbor Slip No. 3 sediment remediation project represents a unique and timely "source removal" project opportunity to further address the Waukegan Harbor as an International Joint Commission (IJC) AOC. This project has the potential to accomplish several key near- and long-term goals and objectives:

- We will permanently remove contaminated sediment "source materials" that were temporarily placed in Slip No. 3 during earlier 1992 dredging of the Waukegan Harbor, but due to budgetary limitations were not treated to more permanently reduce or immobilize their contaminant content.
- We will prepare the slip for use during a subsequent planned harbor dredging project proposed to remove the final volume of PCB-impacted harbor sediment. This subsequent project, subject to funding, will provide the basis for delisting the Waukegan Harbor as an AOC.

Measurable benefits of the proposed Slip No. 3 sediment remediation project will also include:

- Permanent reduction of environmental (human health and ecological) risk associated with entombing 30,000 cy of PCB-laden sediment within the Waukegan Harbor.

- Reduced operation and maintenance costs to the government for monitoring the engineered containment cell of Slip No. 3.
- Returning the Slip No. 3 area to beneficial, revenue-generating harbor uses.
- Returning fish and wildlife habitat to the Slip No. 3 area.
- Further facilitating redevelopment and reuse of the adjoining Waukegan Coke Plant Superfund Site.

The proposed project entails sediment exhumation and transfer, contaminant removal using effective sediment treatment technologies, and final containment and/or re-use of treated sediments. Three alternatives are being explored to achieve this project:

<i>Alternative 1</i>	Sediment Removal, Soil Washing Treatment, Re-use/Disposal	Total Cost: \$4.6M Local Share: \$1.6M Legacy Act: \$3.0M
<i>Alternative 2</i>	Sediment Removal, Construct TSCA Disposal Unit, Continued O&M.	Total Cost: \$2.7M Local Share:\$945K Legacy Act: \$1.76M
<i>Alternative 3</i>	Sediment Removal, Off-site Transport/Disposal to commercial TSCA-permitted TSDF.	Total Cost: \$5.37M Local Share:\$1.88M Legacy Act: \$3.49M

Subject to further design analysis, each of the proposed project alternatives is deemed feasible for implementation during the 2004 to 2005 timeframe.

Figure 1—Aerial View of Slip No. 3 and Inner Harbor

